

**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

**NOV 12 2008**

Practitioner's Docket No. 03200PCT

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Nippon Shokubai Co., Ltd.  
Serial No.: 10/585,793  
Filed: July 12, 2006  
For: Method for producing acrylic acid  
Examiner: Cho, Jennifer Y.  
Art Unit: 1621  
Confirmation No.: 6046

**Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

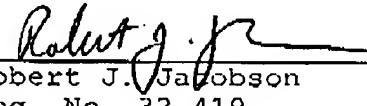
**Certificate of Facsimile Transmission**

I hereby certify that the following documents are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 12, 2008 to 1-571-273-8300 totaling five pages by applicant's attorney, Robert J. Jacobson:

1. This Certificate of Facsimile Transmission dated November 12, 2008 (one page); and
2. Statement of Substance of Interview dated November 12, 2008 (two pages) including Exhibit A (two pages).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11-12-2008

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert J. Jacobson  
Reg. No. 32,419

Tel. No.: (651) 699-7900  
Fax. No.: (651) 699-7901

650 Brimhall Street South  
St. Paul, MN 55116-1511

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

NOV 12 2008

Practitioner's Docket No. 03200PCT

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Nippon Shokubai Co., Ltd.  
Serial No.: 10/585,793  
Filed: July 12, 2006  
For: Method for producing acrylic acid  
Examiner: Cho, Jennifer Y.  
Art Unit: 1621  
Confirmation No.: 6046

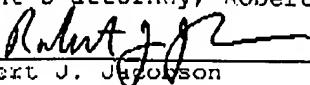
Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## Statement of Substance of Interview

This Statement of Substance of Interview relates to the telephone interview of October 22, 2008 (it is believed that the Examiner inadvertently recorded the date as October 23, 2008).

Applicant had facsimile transmitted a Respective Request For Phone Interview dated October 21, 2008, including "Attachment A for interview purposes" (total, two pages, attached as Exhibit A). The Examiner called the undersigned on October 22, 2008 and answered the questions of the Respective Request for Phone Interview, namely, the Examiner stated 1) that present claim 10 (on October 22, 2008) had not been subjected to substantive examination under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103 and 2) that new proposed claim 10 would not involve any issues such as nonstatutory subject matter issues and as amended would not be rejected.

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as enclosed therin are being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 12, 2008 to 1-571-273-8300 by applicant's attorney, Robert J. Jacobson.

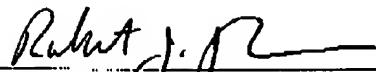
  
Robert J. Jacobson

(Statement of Substance of Interview--page 1 of 2)

10/585,793

under 35 USC 101 or 112.

Date: 11-12-2008



Robert J. Jacobson  
Reg. No. 32,419

Tel. No.: (651) 699-7900  
Fax. No.: (651) 699-7901

650 Brimhall Street South  
St. Paul, MN 55116-1511

(Statement of Substance of Interview--page 2 of 2)

PAGE 3/5 \* RCVD AT 11/12/2008 2:28:29 PM [Eastern Standard Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/25 \* DNI:2738300 \* CSID:6516997901 \* DURATION (mm:ss):01-02

**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER** Exhibit A 1/2

NOV 12 2008

Practitioner's Docket No. 03200PCT

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Nippon Shokubai Co., Ltd.  
 Serial No.: 10/585,793  
 Filed: July 12, 2006  
 For: Method for producing acrylic acid  
 Examiner: Cho, Jennifer Y.  
 Art Unit: 1621  
 Confirmation No.: 6046

Mail Stop Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

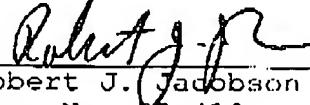
**Respective Request For Phone Interview**

The undersigned respectfully requests a phone interview. Applicant has the following specific questions for the phone interview:

- 1) Whether or not present claim 10, as rejected under 35 USC § 112 and § 101, has been subjected to substantive examination under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103; and
- 2) Whether or not the new proposed claim 10, as shown in "Attachment A," would involve any issues such as nonstatutory subject matter issues.

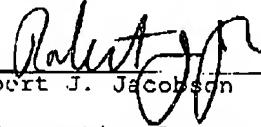
Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10-21-2008

  
 Robert J. Jacobson  
 Reg. No. 32,419  
 650 Brimhall Street South  
 St. Paul, MN 55116-1511

Tel. No.: (651) 699-7900  
 Fax. No.: (651) 699-7901  
 {18450.DOC}

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 21, 2008, to 1-571-273-6246 by applicant's attorney, Robert J. Jacobson.

  
 Robert J. Jacobson

(Respective Request For Phone Interview--  
 page 1 of 1)

*Exhibit A 2/2*Attachment A for interview purposes

1. (previously presented) A process for producing acrylic acid, comprising the steps of:

a) vaporizing a raw material comprising an aqueous glycerol solution to generate a first gas, wherein said aqueous glycerol solution has a water content of not more than 20% by weight;

b) applying a dehydration reaction to glycerol in a gas phase that includes said first gas; and then

c) applying a gas phase oxidation reaction to a gaseous reaction product formed by the dehydration reaction to obtain said acrylic acid.

Present claim 10: A use of acrylic acid obtained by the process for producing acrylic acid according to claim 1 as a raw material for producing a water-absorbent resin.

New proposed claim 10: A process for producing a water-absorbent resin from glycerol as a raw material, comprising the steps of: producing acrylic acid from glycerol as a raw material by the process according to claim 1; and then polymerizing said acrylic acid to obtain a water-absorbent resin.